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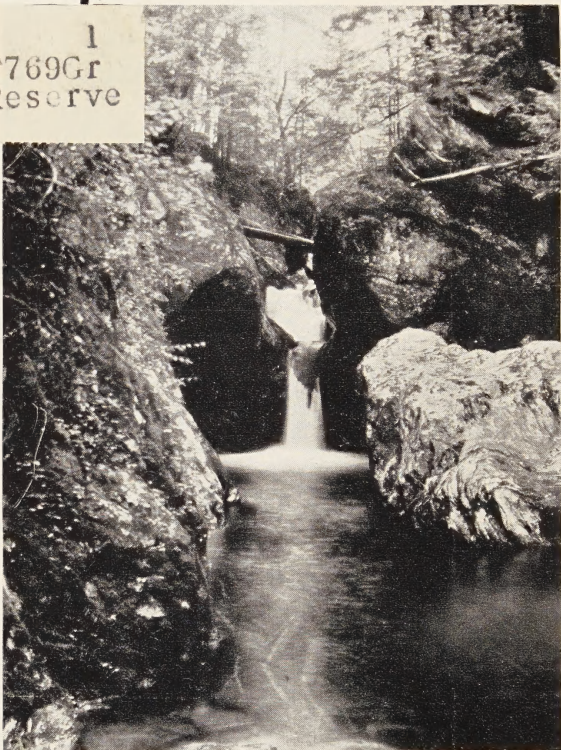
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Green Mountain

NATIONAL
FOREST
VERMONT

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Reserve



Nature undisturbed at Texas Falls, near Hancock, Vt.

F-339227

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
FOREST SERVICE

Green Mountain National Forest

GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST lies along the main range of the Green Mountains in central and south central Vermont and is one of those forests which is being acquired by purchase. Upon the urgent request of leading citizens of Vermont, the purchase unit was approved in 1928 and the first purchases were made in 1931.

The boundaries of the purchase area were fixed by the National Forest Reservation Commission, with the approval of the Vermont Legislature, and extend from slightly north of Lincoln to the Massachusetts line, with the exception of a 14-mile gap between Mendon and Wallingford. They comprise a gross area of 580,000 acres, of which about 115,000 acres are excepted as parts of existing communities or as better suited to agriculture, summer homes, or other forms of private development and use.

The Forest Service acquires land under "the willing seller and the willing buyer" basis. Under this practice 160,000 acres had been acquired as national forest land up to July 1, 1939.

The Green Mountain is one of 158 national forests in the United States and its possessions administered by the Forest Service of the United States Department of Agriculture. These forests comprise a total of 175,000,000 acres and have been placed under what is known as the multiple-use form of administration, designed to prevent the denudation of important watersheds; to protect the areas from fire, insects, and disease; to insure sustained yields of forest products; to encourage the development of suitable wildlife populations; to provide for appropriate recreational use; and to develop and demonstrate desirable forest-land management practices.

The Green Mountain National Forest lends itself ideally to multiple-use administration. Some portions, depleted or abandoned to inferior growths following lumbering operations, are in need of rehabilitation, while others still support fine stands of spruce and northern hardwood timber that is being managed on a sustained-yield basis so as to continue their contribution to the raw-material supplies of local industry. Vermont is an attractive rolling country famous for its green hills and its "unspoiled" pastoral setting. The national forest includes some of its most attractive scenic and recreation areas, and these are

being made available for public use. There are several mountain streams and sections of the forest that afford fine fishing and hunting. In cooperation with the State and under State laws, the Forest Service is assisting in stocking these streams and in improving the environment for wildlife in national-forest areas. A considerable portion of the upland drainage of Vermont lies within the forest-covered hills of the Green Mountain National Forest.





Rolling hills and wooded slopes in the Green Mountains.

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FOREST ADMINISTRATION

The forest supervisor is charged with the protection and administration of the Green Mountain National Forest. He is assisted by necessary specialists on his staff. The forest is divided into two districts, each in charge of a district ranger who administers local affairs under the direction of the forest supervisor.

These officers carefully plan and develop the use of all national-forest resources with a view to making them yield the greatest net benefit to the greatest possible number of people. This requires careful classification of the forest lands and their resources and a long-view determination of the purposes to which each class is best suited.

Unique scenic values of conspicuous slopes must be preserved against defacement or denudation. In the marketing of timber, fine stands must be retained along recreation roads traversing or adjacent to the forest. Careful planning is required to develop recreation areas so as to preserve as nearly as possible the natural environment. Trails through the woodlands are cleared, improved, and maintained for the use of the vacationist, the nature lover, and the sportsman at all seasons. Special areas containing good browse, food, or cover are designated for the use of wildlife. Fish are stocked in streams and ponds where natural conditions favorable to their propagation exist or can be restored.

Other areas are dedicated to timber production. Planting,

silvicultural care and improvement, disease prevention and eradication, selection of mature or decadent timber for harvesting, careful protection of watersheds, and the prevention or control of fire on all areas are all a part of the forest officer's duties.

WATERSHED PROTECTION

The headwaters of several important tributaries of the Connecticut and Hudson Rivers and the Champlain Basin are located within the boundaries of Green Mountain National Forest. The White River, the Williams River, and the West River drain eastward from the forest and empty into the Connecticut. Batten Kill, tributary of the Hudson, touches the forest on the west. Otter Creek, actually one of the longest rivers in Vermont, drains the west side of the forest into Lake Champlain. The Mad River and the Dog River, on the north, flow into the Winooski River, which empties into Lake Champlain above Burlington.

The forest watersheds are of vital importance. Many communities depend upon the clear mountain streams for drinking water. A number of towns maintain reservoirs or storage basins within the forest areas, and these receive special care from forest officers.

Protection of the forest cover, particularly on high slopes, is a definite step toward the control of stream flow. Forest litter and porous woodland soil check the run-off of heavy rains, and trees and undergrowth, with their extensive root systems, bind

the soil against erosion. Maintenance of forest growth is a flood deterrent. It is an essential part of upstream protection programs designed to bring under control, so far as is within human power, torrential waters that have in the past frequently disturbed navigation, industry, and agriculture, and resulted in great loss of life and property.

TIMBER RESOURCES

The chief aim and concern of the national-forest system is to stabilize and perpetuate the supplies of forest raw materials upon which local communities and local industries depend. Not only are the natural resources protected against destructive agencies, but their volume and utility are also steadily increased by constructive forms of management and development.

Throughout most of Vermont, and particularly throughout that portion within or contiguous to the national forest, the wood-using industries are of paramount importance in the economic structure. One extensive survey has indicated more than 135 established wood-using industries, not including many small, part-time operations. Every town and almost every village are to some extent engaged in logging, lumbering, making maple sugar, or some form of activity connected with the production or utilization of forest products. A few communities could hardly exist if the wood-utilization plants were removed, and all would suffer to some degree.

The diverse, and in many cases the almost domestic, character of the wood-using industries in Vermont is outstanding. Their products include such items as spools, heels, candy sticks, toys, baskets, boxes, carpenters' rules, last blocks, tennis racket and snowshoe frames, bowling pins, salad bowls, ladders, tool handles, caskets, veneers, piano sounding boards, furniture, and fine lumber. There is a well-established fern industry, employing local gatherers and depending on the ferns grown on thousands of acres of forest lands. Large numbers of Christmas trees are harvested annually in thinning dense spruce and fir in old-field stands. The well-known maple-sugar industry touches almost every home in rural Vermont. Many farmers and many grist mills operate small, part-time lumber and novelty mills. Several thousand local residents are directly engaged full-time in primary forest industries and certainly another thousand in sec-





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A road into one of the forest camps near West River.

ondary manufacturing and finishing plants. Hundreds of others find part-time employment in the woods felling or hauling or otherwise participating in the lumber industry.

The permanence of the timber resource which is the core of Vermont's industry is of tremendous importance. The natural trend, under a system of small, private ownerships, has been toward depletion of the higher grades and the better species. When use of Vermont timberlands began, including those now within Green Mountain National Forest, the State was covered with fine stands of ash, birch, maple, pine, spruce, beech, and other desirable trees. Under intense use through several generations, about 60 percent of this stand had been severely cut over. The restoration of these second-growth stands on a continuous-production basis, through planned thinning, other silvicultural treatment and protection, and the harvest cuttings of the more mature stands remaining in still generous quantities are the forestry jobs of today.

The aim in the use of national-forest products is to check the depletion and insure as fully as possible permanence of the resource supplies and the industries and communities dependent upon them. Harvesting is regulated to insure sustained yield.

An annual cut of 10,000,000 board feet is now possible on Green Mountain National Forest without exceeding the annual increment and without lessening the scenic and recreation values of the forest. As timber crops become available they are sold to the highest responsible bidder and logged under supervision which insures economical utilization and satisfactory replacement.

THE LOCAL BENEFITS

The property of the Federal Government is exempt from local taxation. However, the guardianship and development of aesthetic values; the protection of resources from fire, insects, and disease; and the construction and maintenance of roads, trails, and other improvements are of definite benefit to the localities in which these lands lie. In addition, it is provided by law that, in lieu of taxes, a fixed portion (now 25 percent) of the gross income from national-forest receipts shall be returned

to the counties in which the forests are situated for road and school improvements. As the forests are restored to more profitable conditions these payments will increase.

The law provides also that an additional 10 percent of the gross income shall be used for improvement of roads within the particular national forest from which the income has been realized. Although the national-forest roads are designed primarily for administrative purposes, including fire protection, they are usually of great value also to the local communities and to visitors. In addition to trails, telephone lines, and other necessary improvements, several main roads have already been built in Green Mountain National Forest, and a large mileage of old town roads is being reclaimed and restored to usefulness. The Danby-Clark Lodge Forest Highway serves not only administrative needs, but also affords another cross-mountain route connecting for trade and social purposes large populations in the two great Vermont valleys.

WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT

The forest is the natural home and preferred environment of many species of game animals and birds, while forest streams and lakes provide an ideal habitat for trout and other game fish.



White-tail deer, black bears, squirrels, rabbits, and grouse; such fur-bearing animals as otters, minks and muskrats; and other wildlife, including skunks, weasels, and foxes are to be found in Green Mountain National Forest.

Maintenance and improvement of food and shelter for desirable species are considered in developing the management plan for the forest.

Brook trout, the elusive rainbow trout, and brown trout are found in the streams. At regular intervals the Vermont Fish and Game Service and the United States Forest Service jointly restock suitable streams with hundreds of thousands of these species. Many stream-improvement devices designed to provide shelter and adequate food-producing areas for game fish have also been installed.

Although the Federal Government owns the land, title to the fish and game within the national forest is vested in the citizens of Vermont. Vermont laws govern hunting and fishing, and the United States Forest Service cooperates with the Vermont Fish and Game Service in enforcing the local laws and regulations.

SCENIC AREAS AND TRIPS

The scenic beauty of the forested hills of southern Vermont, although better known to out-of-doors enthusiasts than to casual tourists, has an appeal rivaling that of more rugged panoramas visible from higher peaks. Many of the hills are templed with fine aged timber, standing guardian over wild undergrowth. Such stands particularly enhance the beauty of the southern

portion of the Long Trail, a "footpath" 261 miles long which extends from Massachusetts to Canada, of which 80 miles lies within Green Mountain National Forest. The notches or gaps in the main range of the Green Mountains afford many inviting views. Southwest from a point near Peru on the old Manchester-Peru turnpike one may look down the entrancing West River Valley as the land rolls away into typical rural eastern Vermont toward Bondville or Londonderry. The Danby-Landgrove pass, with its Devil's Den and Devil's Horse Shed of overhanging ledge rock is equally interesting. The view toward Mount Tabor Brook or that to the northwest toward Ten Kiln Meadow, both vistas framed by tall mountain timber, are fascinating. In this locale the new cross-mountain Danby-Clark Lodge Forest Highway has been built by the Forest Service.

Northeast of Rutland is the famous Sherburne pass, well known as the junction of the Long Trail and the Appalachian Trail. Deer Leap Cliff lies to the north of this pass. In Brandon Gap are the sheer crevices and pillars of the great cliff of Mount Horrid, based in a mass of stone rubble. Middlebury Gap, with its Silent Cliff and sugar-loafed "Hat Crown," is in the middle of the northern portion of the forest, and Lincoln Gap, affording a fine view of pleasant Lincoln Valley, is near the north end of the forest.

A short hike south on the Long Trail from Middlebury Gap takes one through some fine stands of old-growth timber and to the shores of Pleiad Lake in Battell Park. Battell Park, State-owned but within the national-forest boundaries, is a feature of



Fishing stream in the Green Mountain National Forest.

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The covered bridge is one of the quaint touches in the landscape of rural Vermont.

communion of nature to rest the pulse of a busy city existence. Vermont was already noted for such opportunities when a band of confirmed out-of-doorsmen formed the Green Mountain Club in 1910 and determined to blaze a "Footpath in the Wilderness" along the backbone of the Green Mountains. This footpath has since become famous as "The Long Trail." Entering from the south, the Long Trail goes through the national forest to a point a little south of Buffum Shelter. After proceeding north a way, it cuts northeast to skirt Killington Peak (elevation 4,241 feet) and pass on over Pico Peak (elevation 3,961 feet) to Sherburne Pass. Through this portion the Long Trail has been combined with the equally famous Appalachian Trail; but at Sherbourne Pass the Appalachian Trail branches east, going through New Hampshire and over the White Mountains into Maine. The Long Trail continues north, reentering the national forest at Deer's Leap Shelter and finally leaving it just north of Mount Ellen (elevation 4,135 feet). It proceeds along the main ridge area north to the Canadian border.

The Long Trail is easily accessible from numerous roads and side trails. The forest maintains in all, including the portion of the Long Trail traversing its land, 156 miles of such trails. Cooperating with the Green Mountain Club, it has built five Adirondack-type shelters and these, along with those constructed by the club, dot the trails at intervals equal to about an average day's hike.

Horseback riding is another favorite diversion in the Green Mountain State. In addition to the Morgan horse, the State boasts, as well, fine strains of strictly saddle horses. Moreover, many of the summer residents bring their own mounts from neighboring States each year. Under the aegis of the Green Mountain Horse Association this form of recreation is promoted. A thousand miles of trails have been developed and marked, and suitable overnight stops have been indicated throughout the State. Several marked trails which lie within the national forest receive the care necessary to maintain this popular recreation facility.

To the lover of nature, whether trained naturalist or seeker after simple forest lore and peaceful recreation, these trails,



bridle paths, or footpaths open a fairyland hidden from the daily life of the dweller in the normal busy community. Mosses, flowers, bird life, the story of the rocks, zoology, botany, the magic of the forest canopy and undergrowth, the cascades of myriad waterfalls, the splashing brook, views of scenic splendor through leaf-bowered vistas are here in

abundance. Near these trails one may camp, hunt, fish, or simply rest, enjoy the rare beauty of the forest, learn the lesson it so pleasingly teaches, and receive its inspiration.

FOREST CAMPS

Forest campgrounds are natural, woodland beauty spots developed for woodland recreation where all can enjoy the out-of-doors in a clean, safe place free from the bustle of daily life or commercial intrusion. Four such areas have been developed in Green Mountain National Forest. They are used by year-round residents, summer-home owners, tourists, and hikers on an extensive scale, and their use is free.

Campfire permits are not required for building fires within the boundaries of the forest camps. Fireplaces, grates, pure drinking water, picnic tables, parking space, and refuse cans have been provided at all camps. The Government furnishes no overnight accommodations, and campers must bring their own tents, bedding, and utensils.

Forest camps are open to campers and picnickers on May 30, and they remain open until October. The opening date for swimming and bathing is July 1.

Hapgood Pond Forest Camp.—Hapgood Pond Camp is located 2 miles north of the village of Peru on the gravel highway leading from Route 11 to the village of Weston. Twenty-three acres of land and water are included within its boundaries.



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A shelter on the Long Trail in the Green Mountain National Forest.



F-331690

Lunch in the forest; roasting ears done to perfection over the open fire, with sandwiches of crisp, hot bacon.

Tent sites are located in and adjacent to a wooded area with trails leading to the open fields and the pond. A spur road winds through the woods, and spaces for parking have been provided close to each camping spot.

Two picnic areas are available. One is situated in the shade of an old apple orchard, while the other occupies the grassy knoll that overlooks the pond and beach. Both areas are provided with complete facilities for the comfort and convenience of visitors.

A beach 300 feet long adds to the pleasure of bathers. Buoys and lines mark off the area reserved for children, and a log boom encloses the entire area open to swimming. Guards, trained and equipped for lifesaving, constantly watch and patrol the pond. A complete, modern bathhouse, located just off the sand beach, is at the disposal of visitors. Swimming regulations are in keeping with sound sanitary and safety practices, and the public is asked to observe them.

Two large, conveniently located parking areas afford ample space for cars.

White Rocks Forest Camp.—White Rocks Forest camp has been developed for picnicking. It is 2 miles east of Wallingford on a short spur road off Route 103 A. The 2½ acres under the pines and close to the rugged ledges of White Rocks Mountain make an ideal spot for family groups.

A nature trail connects the camp with a natural lookoff, from which an extensive view of the surrounding country rewards a short, easy climb.

Greendale Forest Camp.—Greendale Forest camp offers facilities for picnicking and for tent- and trailer-camping. It is located 5 miles north of Weston village and is reached via Route 8 and the Greendale Road.

This camp is especially suited to those who wish to find quiet and rest deep in the woods beside a mountain stream. It is far enough removed from the centers and paths of everyday activity to give complete freedom from their influences, but is easily accessible and completely equipped with all essential conveniences.

Texas Falls Forest Camp.—Texas Falls Forest camp is 4 miles west of the town of Hancock just off the Middlebury Gap road.

It has been developed for use by picnickers, and simple facilities for outdoor recreation are provided.

Individual picnicking spots are distributed through the thick woods of spruce and fir close to the banks of Texas Brook. A system of paths connects all parts of the camp and winds through large stands of woodland ferns.

Close to the area is scenic Texas Falls, a welter of white water pouring through a deep ravine and over moss-covered rocky ledges shaded by ancient hemlocks. A nature trail leads from the camp to this beautiful gorge.

Visitors will be impressed by the beauty of these forest camps and their surroundings. Please help to maintain their beauty by refraining from peeling birch bark, carving initials, and scattering litter.

WINTER SPORTS AREAS

Green Mountain National Forest offers extensive opportunities for the enjoyment of winter sports. On the forest or in nearby areas are skating rinks, bobsled runs, and both down-mountain and cross-country skiing. Enthusiasts may enjoy an infinite number of snowshoe hikes over widely varying terrain.

The Bromley Mountain area has been especially developed by the Forest Service for the use of skiers. It offers two down-mountain ski runs—a slalom course and open-slope skiing. It is easily accessible over State Highway 11, at a point 7 miles east of the junction of this highway with U S 7, in Manchester, Vt. Privately developed ski-tows and lodges in combination with national-forest developments make the Bromley Mountain area one of the finest skiing and winter sports centers in the East. The Bromley run, though designed for the more advanced skier, has ample facilities for the novice. It is the scene of spectacular races.



F-361559

On Pico Peak. The Green Mountain forest contains many popular winter sports areas.



In winter garb, the town of Peru in the Green Mountain National Forest.

F-285533

COURTESY ON SKI TRAILS

The following ski-trail courtesy rules are recommended; please observe them:

1. Heed the cry of "Track" immediately. Move off the trail or allow the faster runner to pass.
2. If caught on the trail, *stand still; don't budge.*
3. After a spill, move off the trail quickly. Fill the spill hole. Keep your eyes uptrail for oncoming skiers.
4. Tramp the bad spots.
5. Mark the worst or dangerous spots.
6. Don't spoil the snow by walking on it when it is soft.
7. Don't leave clothing or other obstacles on the trail.
8. When stopping near the trail, keep ski tips pointed off the trail.
9. Downhill runners have the right-of-way. Keep off the trail when coming up.
10. Remember the good skier and the good sport is *always under control.*

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

Forest supervisors and forest rangers are friendly public servants. They enjoy the acquaintance and helpful suggestions of forest visitors. Call upon them for such help or advice as you may need. If you plan to build fires elsewhere than at improved campgrounds, drop into their offices and request a free fire permit. If you experience difficulties in any proper use of the forest or have other matters to report, call on them. Above all, if you see an uncontrolled fire in the forest, advise them immediately. Telephone toll charges to their offices may be reversed in such emergencies. Merely give the telephone operator the location of the nearest U. S. Forest Service office. Tell her the nature of the emergency you wish to report, and ask her to reverse the charge.

Forest officers are busy people—busy with the social and economic administration of vast timberlands—but never too busy to be of any proper service to forest visitors. They will be glad to furnish additional local information or to suggest desirable travel routes, upon request.

The office of the forest supervisor is located at Rutland, Vt. District Ranger offices for the Northern District are at Middlebury; for the Southern District, at Manchester Center.

A DEAD CAMPFIRE MEANS LIVE FORESTS FOR YOUR ENJOYMENT

Additional sources of information on Vermont and the Green Mountains are:

The Vermont Forest Service..... Montpelier, Vt.
The Vermont Publicity Service..... Montpelier, Vt.
Secretary, Vermont Chamber of Commerce..... Burlington, Vt.
Secretary, Green Mountain Club, Inc... Rutland, Vt.

Detailed information concerning the Long Trail is available in printed form from the Green Mountain Club and may be obtained through its secretary. The Vermont Publicity Service publishes information concerning Vermont summer homes, hunting and fishing, and State forests and parks.

FIRE PROTECTION

Fire is the great enemy of the forest. A fire out of control is an inferno, destroying wealth, killing wildlife, and often maiming and killing human beings. Timber, forest soil, bird life, game, beauty, and recreation resources here today may be wiped out tomorrow by fire.

The State and Federal forest services cooperate closely in protecting Vermont forests from fire. For the detection of fire, lookout towers connected by telephone lines crown high observation points. Hazardous areas of slash and down timber are under close observation and rigid control. The State has a well-organized warden system to combat fires. Roads, truck trails, and man-trails have been opened to facilitate the transportation of fire-fighting equipment. But these precautions alone cannot stop forest fires. Most forest fires are caused by man, and one careless person or one incendiary may start a fire that will do untold damage and leave permanent blemishes on what are now inviting green forest slopes.

If each of the more than 30,000,000 persons who use the national forests annually will remember that a carelessly tossed



match, a smoldering cigarette, an unextinguished pipe heel, or a neglected campfire may destroy in a few hours what it has taken a century to build, and will govern himself accordingly, man-caused fires can be kept to a minimum.

The Forest Service welcomes you in the belief that you will be careful yourself and see to it that others with you do likewise.

Entrance, travel, and enjoyment of the beauties of the forest are free to all, with the single stipulation that good woods practice must be observed to protect the forest against fire and unsanitary nuisance. Be thoughtful in the forest—treat it as though it were all your own, which it is. It will repay you in health, inspiration, and pleasure. At the same time, remember it is rendering definite economic and social services which depend upon a living forest.

HOW TO PREVENT FOREST FIRES

MATCHES.—Be sure your match is out. Break it in two before you throw it away.

SMOKING.—Smoke only while stopping in a safe place clear of all inflammable material.

TOBACCO.—Be sure that pipe ashes and cigar or cigarette butts are dead before throwing them away. Never throw them into brush, leaves, or needles.

MAKING CAMP.—Before building a fire scrape away all inflammable material from a spot 5 feet in diameter. Dig a hole in the center and in it build your campfire. Keep your fire small. Never build it against trees or logs or near brush.

BREAKING CAMP.—Never break camp until your fire is out—dead out. Always leave a clean camp.

HOW TO PUT OUT A CAMPFIRE.—Stir the coals while soaking them with water. Turn small sticks and drench both sides. Wet the ground around the fire. Be sure the last spark is dead.

BRUSH BURNING.—Never burn slash or brush in windy weather or while there is the slightest danger that the fire will get away.

EXTINGUISH any small fire you can.

REPORT any fire you discover. Go to the nearest telephone and ask for the local Forest Ranger or Fire Warden.

EVERYBODY LOSES WHEN TIMBER BURNS

CLOSED AREAS

As a fire-prevention measure during the season when there is no snow on the ground, it is necessary to close certain limited areas of the forest against public use. These are areas where dry slash and litter on the forest floor cause high fire hazards. The total area thus closed seldom exceeds from 2,000 to 3,000 acres, and each area is well posted so that the public may have notice not to enter. Such areas are not generally of great scenic or other recreational interest.

FIRE CLOSURES

During periods of dangerous fire weather, the forest supervisor may close temporarily the entire national forest against public entry. Such general closures are applied only so long as the dangerous weather prevails. Other forest lands throughout the State may be closed during similar periods through proclamation by the Governor. These special closures are given wide publicity so that local residents and visitors alike may realize the dangerous conditions in the woods.

The Forest Aids In Erosion Control
Enjoy The Forests—Leave A Clean Camp



The Forest Yields Health—Wealth—Security

GREEN MOUNTAIN NATIONAL FOREST

VERMONT

1939

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Scale of Miles

